

of excellence she has compiled in academics, leadership and community service, that I am proud to salute Rachelle Teller, winner of the 1998 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is made to young adults who have demonstrated that they are truly committed to playing important roles in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Rachelle is being honored for demonstrating that same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan.

Rachelle is an exceptional student at Napoleon High School and possesses an impressive high school record. Rachelle is a Class Representative in the Student Government and a member of the schools S.A.D.D. program. Rachelle is also the Editor-in-Chief of the school newspaper. Outside of school, Rachelle is involved with the International Order of Rainbow for Girls and various other community activities.

In special tribute, therefore, I am proud to join with her many admirers in extending my highest praise and congratulations to Rachelle Teller for her selection as a winner of a LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor is also a testament to the parents, teachers, and others whose personal interest, strong support and active participation contributed to her success. To this remarkable young woman, I extend my most heartfelt good wishes for all her future endeavors.

**MEMORIAL DAY 1998—OUR THANKS
AND GRATITUDE TO ALL WHO
SACRIFICED FOR OUR NATION**

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 1998

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for all of us on this Memorial Day to commemorate all those who made the ultimate sacrifice on the battlefield, on the seas, and in the air, so that we in our nation may enjoy the liberty for which they gave their lives.

Our Memorial Day services which date back to our country's tragic conflict, the Civil War period, which tore apart our nation and in which brother fought brother, have taught us how fragile our liberty is.

The first National Memorial Day was held on May 30, 1868 in honor of those who had given their lives during the Civil War. It was Arlington National Cemetery, in the presence of General Ulysses S. Grant, where future President James A. Garfield touched upon the solemnness and reverence of honoring the dead stating:

If silence is ever golden, it must be here beside the graves of fifteen thousand men whose lives were more significant than speech and whose death was a poem the music of which can never be sung. * * * they summed up and perfect, by one supreme act, the highest virtues of men and citizens. For love of country they accepted death, and thus resolved all doubts, and made immortal their patriotism and virtue.

In the subsequent Spanish American War, the two World Wars, in Korea, in Vietnam, in Somalia, Grenada, Panama, and the Persian Gulf, and in countless other skirmishes, on lawless frontiers, and in peacekeeping efforts

throughout the world, our brothers and sisters, our sons and daughters, our parents, our friends and loved ones, our fellow Americans, have given their lives for a greater cause.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt summed up the American Spirit when he said: "We, too, born to freedom, are willing to fight to maintain freedom. We, and all others who believe as deeply as we do, would rather die on our feet than live on our knees." We are a proud peace loving nation, but when alternatives fail, we will fight to maintain liberty and freedom. Memorial Day is a solemn day where we honor those who had the courage to die on their feet.

We honor our fallen heroes of those conflicts, not only because they are worthy of our honor, but also by recalling their sacrifice, we make certain that we keep the peace for our future generations. By honoring our tragic heroes, our nation is reminded to avoid the mistakes and errors that could lead to any future conflict.

As we pause today, remembering our loved ones who died in service, let us take a moment to also recall all those Americans whose fates are still unknown, our POWs and MIAs. There are over two thousand from Vietnam, and countless others from other conflicts. Let us remember those thousands of service men and women who still remain unaccounted for.

We also honor the millions of other Americans who sacrificed to defeat tyranny here and abroad, the women and civilians who worked in our defense plants and who served in the auxiliary during both World Wars, our workers in business and industry who helped to make our nation the "Arsenal of Democracy", the Boy and Girl Scouts who conducted metal and paper drives, the housewives who learned to make do with ration stamps, the workers who learned to car pool, and the senior citizens who served as civil defense officers, those who wrote letters and spent packages to our troops in Korea, Vietnam, The Persian Gulf and Bosnia. All of these Americans have helped make the world safe for democracy.

Mr. Speaker, on this Memorial Day, let us give thanks and praise to all the men and the women, who worked together and in many cases died together, so that we may remain free.

Let us also pause today to pray for the safekeeping and safe return of our thousands of American service men and women serving in distant lands in peacekeeping missions.

Thank you and God bless.

**IN HONOR OF VARICK MEMORIAL
A.M.E. ZION CHURCH**

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 1998

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Varick Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church of New Haven, Connecticut on the occasion on its 180th anniversary. Blessed with a vibrant and thriving congregation, Varick's history reflects the words of its motto, "Each One Reach One, Each One Teach One, Each One Save One"

Established in 1818 by 35 former slaves, Varick's philosophy reflects the history of this great church. These newly freed men and

women first sought to worship at the First Methodist Church. However, Bishop James Varick of the A.M.E. Church of New York soon convinced the group to join with his movement. From its very inception, this parish family has reached out in fellowship to the Dixwell and Greater New Haven Community. In its earliest days the parsonage of the church served on the Underground Railroad, which was led by an A.M.E. Zion Church member named Harriet Tubman.

The church's mission of outreach brought countless distinguished men and women to its pulpit, including educator Booker T. Washington and Civil War hero E. George Biddle. The distinguished ranks of the pastors of Varick Church include six men who went on to enlighten even more people by becoming A.M.E. Zion Bishops.

This year, Varick has the honor of hosting the 1998 New England A.M.E. Zion Church Annual Conference. As their members gather in fellowship, I rise to salute their tireless ministry. Varick Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church has changed the face of New Haven through its moral guidance and unwavering commitment to improving our community. I join with Varick in celebrating their first 180 years, and thank them for their continued faithful service to the many families whose lives have been changed by the good works of Varick Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church.

**50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
BERLIN AIRLIFT**

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 1998

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, in just a few days President Clinton will be in Berlin to mark the 50th anniversary of the Berlin Airlift. Just last week, I joined a number of my colleagues in preparing a CARE package to mark this anniversary. These CARE packages will be sent to Berlin for the 50th anniversary celebrations of the airlift, and then they will be shipped on to Afghanistan to provide assistance to the Afghani people who have been devastated by twenty years of war and turmoil.

Mr. Speaker, it is particularly appropriate that we remember and reflect upon the Berlin Airlift and the significance of that event in United States foreign policy as we mark the half century anniversary of this event. It was one of the most critical steps in defining the American response to the Soviet Union and in establishing the parameters of United States policy in the Cold War.

All of us are familiar with the story of the Berlin Airlift. In the spring of 1948, Soviet dictator Josef Stalin began a campaign to force the Western Allies from the occupied city of Berlin, which was isolated inside East Germany, some 150 miles behind the Iron Curtain. In a concerted effort to consolidate his hold over all of Central and Eastern Europe, he pressed to eliminate this island of democracy inside the Soviet occupation zone.

Mr. Speaker, as the occupation of Germany began at the end of World War II, the United States, Britain and France had negotiated air corridors to fly over the Soviet zone in order

to reach their sectors of occupied Berlin. Negotiations on land access via autobahn, railroad, and barge were begun but never completed because of the deterioration of relations with the Soviet Union.

On June 11, 1948, Soviet military authorities halted Allied and German freight traffic to Berlin for two days. This was the beginning of a campaign of harassment and bullying that continued for the next two weeks. On June 18, the three Western Allies—the United States, Britain, and France—announced the establishment of a critically important currency reform that paved the way for Germany's post-war economic recovery. Soviet authorities protested the currency reform and announced that they would not participate. On June 22, following a meeting of the four occupying powers, Soviet authorities announced that they would proceed with a separate currency reform in their own zone of occupation. The Western Allies reaffirmed their intention to proceed with their planned reform.

On June 24, 1948, Soviet military authorities enforced a complete prohibition of all ground transportation to and from the western sectors of Berlin—freight and passenger by highway, railroad, and water. The following day, June 25, Soviet authorities served notice that they would not supply food to the Western occupation zones of the city. That very day, the first eight British Royal Air Force aircraft arrived in the British sector of Berlin to commence airlift operations. The Berlin airlift formally began on June 26 with 22 flights of United States C-47 aircraft carrying 80 tons of supplies from Wiesbaden in the U.S. occupation zone to Berlin's Tempelhof airfield.

Mr. Speaker, over the next 320 days—until May 12, 1949, when Soviet authorities reopened ground routes to Berlin—the United States and Great Britain carried out a massive airlift bringing in all of the food and other supplies necessary to maintain the 2.1 million people living in the Western Allied occupation zones of Berlin.

The effort was truly remarkable. By February of 1949 the U.S. Air Force and the Royal Air Force were delivering nearly 8,000 tons daily—the equivalent of 530 German rail carloads of supplies. All kinds of commodities were transported to the city in order to maintain the health and well-being of its citizens. Two-thirds of the material carried to Berlin was coal—the fuel necessary to maintain the western zones of the city. Less than one-third of the material carried to Berlin was food—slightly more than one pound per person per day, which provided the West Berliners with a nourishing, though monotonous, diet. Some 7 percent of the total goods transported were industrial raw materials, in order to maintain the economy of the city, liquid fuel, and other items.

Mr. Speaker, the cost of operating the airlift was high for all involved. West Berliners suffered to maintain their freedom. Their privation was real. Despite the airlift, food and fuel was scarce. Unemployment rose steadily throughout the period of the airlift because industries did not have sufficient fuel and raw materials to maintain their operations. The American and the British people paid an estimated \$200 million to operate the airlift over the 320 days that it functioned. Considering the massive scale of the operation, it was remarkably safe. Nevertheless, 76 people died in airlift operations, including 31 American servicemen.

The airlift was an example of one of the finest efforts of the United States military forces. The logistics requirements were extraordinary. Aircraft had to be gathered from American bases around the world, pilots had to be trained, ground crews coordinated. The Tempelhof airfield in Berlin was inadequate to the task, and it had to be expanded and rebuilt at the same time that aircraft were using the runways around the clock. Throughout this massive effort American and British military forces worked side by side.

General George C. Marshall served as our Secretary of State at the time of the Berlin Airlift, and he played a critical role in the decision to establish the airlift. Robert H. Ferrell, in his biography of General Marshall, put the importance of the Berlin Airlift in context:

The City [of Berlin] was a symbol of the division of Germany. Its continued independence . . . gave evidence of the will power of the Western nations on the whole German question and even more: if Berlin went completely to the Russians, all Germany could follow, and such a procession of calamities might collapse Western Europe.

Mr. Speaker, the Berlin Airlift was a critical event that helped to cement the friendship of the American and the German people following World War II. In 1994, then Secretary of State Warren Christopher told a German audience at the Berlin Airlift memorial at Tempelhof Airport:

Americans remember the airlift as the bridge that joined us as kindred nations, prepared to stand firm in defiance of tyranny, prepared to endure hardship in defense of liberty. This legacy outlasted the airlift, the division of Germany and, ultimately, the Cold War itself.

The Berlin Airlift was a critical step in establishing the United States response to the Soviet Union at the critical opening stage of the Cold War. President Harry S. Truman, who directed that the airlift be established when Soviet forces attempted to isolate and engulf Berlin, established the fundamental U.S. posture—a firm but measured response to efforts to extend Soviet authority.

As we look back from the perspective of half a century, Mr. Speaker, President Truman and his outstanding Secretary of State, General George C. Marshall, were responsible for setting United States policy toward the Soviet Union. That policy was followed by every President and Secretary of State—both Republican and Democratic—for the next forty years.

When we applaud the fall of the Berlin Wall and the opening of the iron curtain, Mr. Speaker, it is Harry Truman whom we must thank. He did not live to see the triumph of the wise policies that he set in place, but we as Americans are now living in a new and safer world that was shaped and largely brought about through the genius and foresight of Harry Truman and George C. Marshall.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in commemorating one of the critical events of this century—the 50th anniversary of the Berlin Airlift.

SPECIAL TRIBUTE HONORING
HEATHER ROGERS, LEGRAND
SMITH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 1998

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence she has compiled in academics, leadership and community service, that I am proud to salute Heather Rogers, winner of the 1998 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is made to young adults who have demonstrated that they are truly committed to playing important roles in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Heather is being honored for demonstrating that same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan.

Heather is an exceptional student at Deerfield High School and possesses an impressive high school record. Heather is President of the National Honor Society and Treasurer of the school yearbook. Heather also is involved with Varsity basketball, volleyball and cheerleading. Outside of school, Heather is involved with various community activities.

In special tribute, therefore, I am proud to join with her many admirers in extending my highest praise and congratulations to Heather Rogers for her selection as a winner of a LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor is also a testament to the parents, teachers, and others whose personal interest, strong support and active participation contributed to her success. To this remarkable young woman, I extend my most heartfelt good wishes for all her future endeavors.

CARNEGIE RECOGNIZES THE
HEROISM OF MARC MEUNIER

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 1998

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I was very pleased to receive last week a notification from the Carnegie Commission Hero Fund word that they had awarded a medal to Marc Meunier of New Bedford, Massachusetts. On March 18, 1997, Marc Meunier saved two people from drowning. Many of us Mr. Speaker, would be very proud if we were able to give assistance to fellow human beings in trouble. To not simply give assistance but save the lives of two people who were about to drown is obviously an accomplishment of enormous significance. I am very pleased that the Hero Fund extended this extremely well deserved recognition to Mr. Meunier and I ask that the description of his heroics be printed here as an example of how we human beings can act at our best.

JODI C. RODERICK

R. STEPHEN MORRISON

Plymouth, Massachusetts

MARC M. MEUNIER

New Bedford, Massachusetts

Jodi C. Roderick, Marc M. Meunier, and R. Stephen Morrison saved Leslie L. and Helene